June 2024 ISSUE NO. 639

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's EXCITER

GET INVOLVED

- RARS General Membership meeting: **Second Tuesday** of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night except Saturday @ 8 p.m. on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net: Saturdays @ 8:00 PM on 146.64.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the **First Tuesday** of each month.
- On the **fourth Tuesday** of every month, in-person meeting at Ridge Road Baptist Church where there will be project tables, demos, snacks, and socializing.

SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Interested in helping? Visit https://www.rars.org/public-service.php

frequently for our ham public service schedule.

RARS General Meeting

Date: June 11, 2024

Main topic: RARS Field Day

By: Curt Phillips, W4CP and David Burt W4OFO.

Time: Zoom Meeting at 7:30 PM, informal gathering at 7PM

Next Month: VU4N & VU7A Expeditions

By: Krish, W4VKU

LESS THAN 30 DAYS UNTIL FIELD DAY, June 22 & 23, See page 8

RARS In Person Meeting

Date: June 25, 2024

Where: Ridge Road Baptist Church

Time: 7:00 PM

In-person meeting at Ridge Road Baptist Church where there will be project tables, demos, snacks, and socializing.

RARS Officers

PRESIDENT
Fin Gold
NC4FG
nc4fgfin@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT
Chuck Till
K4RGN
k4rgn@outlook.com

SECRETARY
Julie Royster
KT4JR
919-782-1624
KT4JR@arrl.net

TREASURER
Greg Seamster
KE4PAX
919.859.0029
KE4PAX@arrl.net

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Regular dues for licensed amateurs are $18 per year. (From July 1 through June 30.) Additional licensed immediate family members pay $5 each per year. Dues for licensed full-time students and licensed seniors 60 and over are $12 per year. Unlicensed individuals may become associate members for $9 per year. Applications for membership are available from the treasurer or on the RARS web site.

https://www.rars.org

Exciter

The Exciter is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The Exciter welcomes articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces. The submission deadline for each month's Exciter is the Saturday that is ten days before the general meeting. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

The views expressed in the Exciter are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

Tom Lewis, N4TL, editor (editor@rars.org)

President's Message

What's everyone talking about this time of year?

Field Day!
June 22-23, 2024

For those who aren't familiar with Field Day, now is the time to go see what it is about. We'll have a friendly "Get On The Air (GOTA) Station" where an experienced ham will guide new hams, all Technician class hams, or non-hams through the process of calling out on HF. I'm hosting the GOTA station and our information table, so you'll have an easy time of it as we make calls together. Be careful! Once you feel the thrill of making a contact, it may be habit-forming. There is just something special about being able to prove that our hobby works by contacting people far away and saying "Can you hear me?", "Yes, can you hear me?, "Yes, have a good day!". Bring your friend, your kids, your spouse and everyone can give it a try. Look for the signup in the Field Day section of this newsletter or the top of the rars.org main web page.

In other news, our online **RARS Discord** discussion board has quickly become a great spot to chat about anything radio. Why is this valuable? Because you can join in the discussion at any time and see what was already talked about. Want to make a suggestion for the club? Talk about your favorite part of ham radio? Ask questions about how to put up an antenna? Install a radio in the car? All that is there and more. Come chat with us!

Here is the link: RARS Discord Server

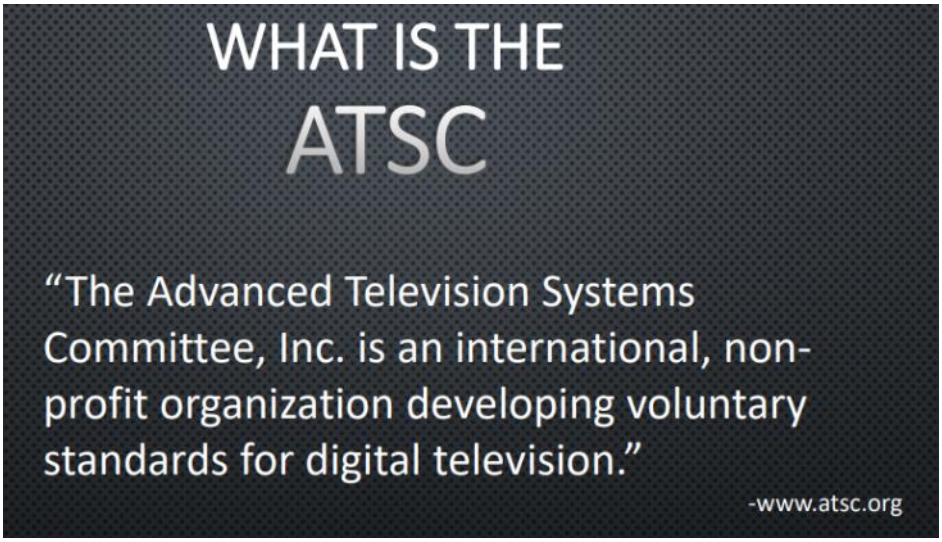
Wishing everyone a great June!

73,
Fin Gold, NC4FG

May 14, 2024 RARS meeting

Fin Gold, NC4FG, RARS President, started the meeting at 7:30. The pledge of allegiance was recited. Various reports were given. See the minutes for more information about the meeting. Chuck Till, K4RGN introduced the presentation, NextGen TV, ATSC 3.0 given by Ryan Gladson, Chief Engineer, CBS 17 Raleigh (WNCN).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33PM.



Two slides from the presentation.

A PDF file of the presentation is here,

https://www.rars.org/ProgramFiles/ATSC3.pdf

51 people attended the zoom meeting.

Tom, N4TL, missed the meeting so a list of attendees was not captured.

Monthly In-Person RARS Gathering, May 28

Ridge Road Baptist Church, at 2011 Ridge Road, Raleigh

The meeting starts at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall, but we start setting up at 6:00 pm, and you are welcome to bring your own ham radio equipment and projects to demonstrate, show off, or just work on with other like-minded hams -- we have plenty of tables. You might also find sources of coax, connectors, zip cord, Powerpoles®, and whatnot.

RARS Gathering Sign-in, 38 people

Name	Call
Tony O'Connor	K1OC
Jeremy Lindsey	K2HJX
Patrick Hanson	K3PMH
Brantley West	K4CBW
Ray Arthur	K4DBZ
TOM HEGELE	K4ETH
AUSTIN HYDERABAD	K4HYD
JOHN HOLLOWELL	K4JAH
Chuck Till	K4RGN
Richard Hall	K7RLH
Nancy Torborg	KB2TNR
JONATHAN	KB8QNE
Greg Seamster	KE4PAX

Jon Suen	KG6K
DOUG MACKLEM	KN4DSZ
Devin Hedge	KN4FVH
Paul R. Dugdell	KO4PZA
Daniel Berzinskas	KQ4GOB
Will	KQ4KRD
Jay Gillette	KQ4PSK
Ken Kirchner	KQ4QWZ
Fred Williams	KQ4RPP
Ralph Selmont	KQ4RZI
Richard Kroeber	N1FUA
Doug Wall	N3LTV
JOE	N4BJH

Roger Brower	N4KDD
Tom Lewis	N4TL
John Honeycutt	N8ZU
Fin Gold	NC4FG
Mike Hollingsworth	No call
Stephen Haffly	NY4NC
David Burt	W4OFO
Bob Starkenburg	W4TTX
Charles Swindell	WB4DCM
Bill Berzinskas	WW1H
Dennis Mason	WZ0Q
GREG STAMPER	

RARS Gathering, picture

Monthly In-Person RARS Gathering, Continued

RARS Gathering, picture

Bill Berzinskas, WW1H; Daniel Berzinskas, KQ4GOB; Brantley West, K4CBW

The guys were listing to a station calling QRZ on CW. Daniel using a button on the top of the microphone sent his call. The other station responded with a signal report.

ht

Monthly In-Person RARS Gathering, Continued

RARS Gathering, picture

Nancy Torborg, KB2TNR
2024 RARS*fest* Chair

The RARS*fest* Volunteer Prize drawing

Congratulations to Travis Russell KN4WJL, who won our Volunteer Grand Prize of a Yaesu FT-70DR/DE HT! Other winners were Carolyn Mayfield KC4EYK and Philip Warnock KQ4MSQ who both won a $100 DX Engineering Gift Certificate;
Bob Starkenburg W4TTX who claimed a $50 ARRL Gift Certificate and Crystal Martin and JT Hicks KQ4GAM who each went home with a $25 ARRL Gift Certificate. Some of those prizes are being mailed to the winners this week.

Thanks to all for volunteering and making RARSfest a success this year. We hope we see even more folks volunteering in 2025!

Many Gathering pictures

https://www.icloud.com/sharedalbum/#B1AJ058xyJEeO1G

Be patient, it takes a while to display them.

LESS THAN 30 DAYS UNTIL FIELD DAY, June 22 & 23

What is Field Day?

ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. Field Day is a picnic, a camp-out, practice for emergencies, an informal contest and, most of all, FUN!

More than 35,000 radio amateurs fire up their radios on the fourth full weekend of June each year and start 24 hours of amateur radio heaven. It is a time where many aspects of our hobby come together to highlight the many roles we play in the community. The skills we develop during Field Day are the same skills we use when we help with emergency situations and public service. Ham radio has been called into action again and again to provide communications in extraordinary situations when it really matters.

Have you made your plans to be at Field Day for June 22 & 23, along with the set-up day on Friday, June 21 at 10 AM?

We're expecting a GREAT Field Day and want **YOU** to be a part of it!!

How can I participate?

Sign up here to operate and/or log include the GOTA station on Field Day!
Sign up here for "antenna launcher" training on Saturday June 8 at 9 AM.
Participate in setup on Friday June 21 at 10 AM.

Our Field Day will be held at the Raleigh Police Club, 3500 Leonard Road, Knightdale. Bring NEW HAMS, INTERESTED NON-HAMS, CURRENT TECHNICIANS and/or INACTIVE HAMS! KIDS are especially welcome too! Field Day is also RARS annual Open House. We'll have a GOTA (Get On The Air) station where people in these categories can learn or re-learn how to operate a ham station and make contacts across the USA. If they want to get an overview on the skills they can practice BEFORE Field Day to make it even more fun, have them **attend the RARS General Membership meeting on June 11th** via Zoom. We will be doing a presentation on Field Day and will provide info on how Field Day contacts work and tips to make the most difficult contacts!

We currently have plans for **9 stations** on 10, 20, 40, and 80/15 meter Phone, 40, 20, 15/80 meter CW (code), 15 and 20/40 meter Digital, plus the additional Free VHF/UHF Station and a satellite station.

Come out to play with radios, help, and learn, as well as enjoy the camaraderie, fellowship and FOOD with those who share your interest in radios!

Email us with any questions via the links below. We look forward to seeing you there!
Curt Phillips W4CP
David Burt W4OFO
RARS Field Day Co-Chairs

2023 RARS FIELD DAY PICTURES

Join the fun in 2024

Top Left:
AB-577 Military Mast
(Antenna Launcher)

Top Right:
20/15/10 meter
Phone Yagi

Right:
Operator (Dave Buster KK4ELT) and
Logger (Bruce Sherman KI4PAC)
working together to make contacts

RARS Member Birthdays

Charles	KI4DCR	06/03
Dan	KI4ZBW	06/03
Robert	K4RWR	06/03
John	KK4JCN	06/03
Tony	W4BMX	06/04
Norm	WX7NDB	06/04
Gwen	KF4EUT	06/05
Daniel	KD4KXI	06/05
Bruce	KI4PAC	06/07
Cliff	N3LEX	06/09
David	W4OFO	06/10
Ken	KN4GUS	06/11
Gary	KQ4BTC	06/11
Leila	KO4ZTR	06/11
Matt	KN4MIO	06/11
Charles	NZ0I	06/11
Edward	KQ4HTF	06/12
Jon	KI6BHF	06/13
Jon	KO4WLA	06/16
Ryan	KN6ARB	06/17
Big T	KN4WJL	06/18
Mark	N4MQU	06/18
Robbie	KA4RDR	06/19
Wade	KK4UGY	06/19
Steve	W4MGT	06/21
Patrick	KM4QDZ	06/22
Michael	KO4YMG	06/23
Kelly	KD4EWG	06/24
Harry Spaulding		06/28
Mike	K4MBX	06/30

RARS New Members

Raymond Kalbfeld	K4JKA
John Brewer	K5MO
Ben Shepard	KQ4QWV
Ken Kirchner	KQ4QWZ
Allen Gaertner	KQ4QZA
MacEntyre Allen	KQ4QZC
Fred Williams	KQ4RPP
Ohad Farkash	KQ4RPQ
Ralph Selmont	KQ4RZI
Gregory Stamper	KQ4SKU
Mike Hollingsworth	No License
Steve Gent	WB2VKL
DC Diaz-Castro	WP4TGK

RARS Net Activity May 2024

31 Two meter nets:
357 checkins,
668 minutes

4 Six meter nets:
39 checkins,
50 minutes

No Ham Public Service
net this month

HAM RADIO LUNCHEON

Everyone is welcome!

Every Thursday at 11:15 AM, New York Diner,
909 McKnight Drive Knightdale.
https://www.facebook.com/NewYorkDinerNC
Check the latest information on the AB4OZ QRZ entry. QRZ.COM.

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh & Nets

146.640 And 444.525, click for link to RARS website.

Join us for the nightly RARS net at 8 p.m. on the 146.640 repeater. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS members to the net.

There is a net Listing on the RARS web-site click here. https://www.rars.org/nets.php

Six meter net

Join us Mondays at 8:30PM on 50.200 USB. Every one is invited. This is an informal net run by our vice president Chuck Till, K4RGN. After the SSB net, on the first Monday of the month we will QSY to 50.400 AM. Its interesting to hear the difference between SSB and AM.

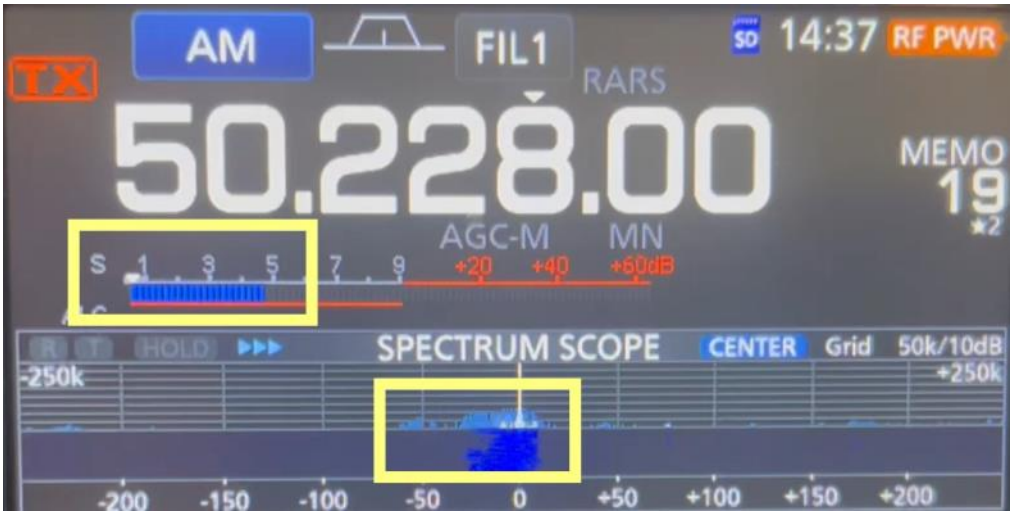
June 22 & 23

RARS | Field Day 2024

https://www.rars.org

6m RF Noise by Doug, K3LTV.

I have been having a heck of a time hearing stations on Chuck's 6m Monday night 8:30pm net (especially the AM net). There was a very strong (S5+) noise source. This morning, I powered up my ICOM 7300 via battery and I got ready to shutoff my house power so that I could eliminate my home as the RF noise source. Well, in the process of deciding to carefully shutdown my Raspberry Pi, I happened to realize that when my rPi was powered off, that RF noise disappeared. After more investigation (unplugging and finally only powering the rPi via a battery and not booting the rPi operating system) I found that the noise was actually coming from a USB powered Meetou speaker!



Screen shot of the ICOM 7300 Front panel showing the noise

Meetou speaker

RARS Monthly Supper, IHOP Restaurant

All members and guests are welcome to the monthly (first Tuesday) RARS Supper, 6:30PM, at the IHOP Restaurant, 7471 Six Forks Road, Raleigh. The restaurant is on the corner of Sawmill and Six Forks Roads. After entering the restaurant look for our folks in the dining room. Informal and Dutch, just bring your appetite and best rag to chew.

73, Chuck, K4HF

RARS MONTHLY SUPPER , IHOP RESTAURANT JUNE 4, 2024

Photo by Tom Lewis, N4TL

Names clockwise around the table

Chuck Littlewood, K4HF; Mary Jo Littlewood, K4MJL; Chuck Till, K4RGN; Jonathan Osbrink, KB8QNE; Dennis Mason, WZ0Q; Ken Latchum, AD4GX; John Honeycutt, N8ZU; Bob Starkenburg, W4TTX; Ralph Selmont, KQ4RZI

RARS Public Service

If you would like to help with a RARS Public Service Event, please go to the HPSNC Events page to sign up.

The Public Service events we're committed to support in 2024 are listed below. Please check back frequently for updated information.

Here are the events you can sign up for now. List updated February 11, 2024.

2024 MS Spring Fling
Saturday, June 8, 2024
This ride, organized by Team CBC, benefits the Multiple Sclerosis Society and includes 62, 38, and 20-mile routes. Mobile and rest stop hams are needed for this event.

* Location: Hugger Mugger Brewing Company, 229 Wicker St, Sanford, NC 27330
* Ham Coordinator: Jeremy Lindsley (K2HJX)
* Website: MS Spring Fling
* Signup on the HPSNC Events page here.

2024 Cup 'n Cone Tour
Saturday, June 15, 2024
This half-day event, sponsored by Precision Race, benefits the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. We will need mobile stations (SAGs) and rest stop stations to cover 25 and 50 mile routes.

* Location: Panther Creek High School, 6770 McCrimmon Pkwy, Cary, NC 27519
* Ham Coordinator: Kenn Kubacki (NE4Y)
* Website: 2024 Cup 'n Cone Tour
* Signup on the HPSNC Events page here.

2024 Firecracker Ride
Thursday, July 4, 2024
This full-day event, sponsored by the Capital Cycling Club, benefits the Greater Carolinas Multiple Sclerosis Society. Mobile stations (SAGs) and rest stop stations needed to cover 36, 60, and 100 kilometer routes.

* Location: Carolina Brewing Company, 140 Thomas Mill Rd., Holly Springs, NC 27544
* Ham Coordinator: Jeremy Lindsley (K2HJX)
* Website: The July 4th Firecracker Ride
* Signup on the HPSNC Events page here.

RARS Classifieds

Copied from https://www.rars.org/classifieds.php

The items below were listed within the last 30 days on the RARS website.
Check the RARS Classified List on the RARS website regularly for new items.

Clegg 99'er 6 Meter AM Transceiver

Posted May 31st, 2024 by: K4HF

Contact: k4hf953@yahoo.com

The Clegg 99'er runs 8 Watts input and the frequency is crystal controlled. Three crystals are included. The power supply is built in and the mike and manual are included. Tested and working, very good condition. $55.

Contact me by e mail, preferred, or (919) 630-9358. Thanks, Chuck

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Weller TC Solder Station with accessories

Posted May 30th, 2024 by: W4CX

Contact: dargordo@gmail.com

Weller Model WTCPT with soldering pencil, two tips., Probe Holder. Power button replaced.
Let me know your email if you want pics. Works well!
$25.

Darrell W4CX
(919)306-7699

TYT DMR-380

Posted May 30th, 2024 by: W4CX (919)306-7699

Contact: dargordo@gmail.com

Almost new. In original box with accessories and PS. Barely used.
$20 OBO

Ameritron HF Power Amplifier AL-80B

Posted May 29th, 2024 by: KN4MJV

Contact: sergey.forms@gmail.com

Selling new open-box Ameritron HF Power Amplifier AL-80B. Got it as bday gift, never used. Box, instructions.

Asking 1990$

RARS Classifieds continued

Photos at my QRZ page: https://www.qrz.com/db/KN4MJV
https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/ame-al-80b

Baofeng UV-5R forsale
Posted May 29th, 2024 by: WZ0Q
Contact: wz0q@outlook.com

New in box Baofeng UV-5R, with all accessories.
Asking $20.00.
Dennis Wz0q.
919-413-5998.
Or email me.

Yaesu FT-450D HF/6M
Posted May 27th, 2024 by: WA4VSL
Contact: glampley@nc.rr.com

Very clean Yaesu FT-450D HF/6M radio for sale. No scratches or dents and always in a non-smoking environment. Comes with built-in antenna tuner, original box, manual, power cable with Anderson Powerpole connectors, hand microphone, and USB to serial port CAT interface. The serial number is "5I******" indicating a July 2015 manufacturing date. Pickup near Morehead City $600.

Also have a DWC30WIN 30A switching power supply that has been used with the FT-450D for an additional $70 if needed.

Contact me on email. Glenn WA4VSL

SBE SB-34 transceiver
Posted May 22nd, 2024 by: N0FSD
Contact: wilson321@mac.com

I'm downsizing and have a Side Band Engineers Model 34 transceiver for sale. This unit covers 80 through 15 meters. The unit is in need of alignment which is something I don't have the equipment to perform. The radio operates from both 120 VAC and 12 VDC. I only have the AC power cord for the radio. Service and Maintenance manuals are available on line for no charge

for this radio. The radio receives on all bands and transmits on all bands but needs alignment to get full output on all the bands. This is hybrid radio with a solid state receiver and a vacuum tube transmitter. The tubes are 12BY7 driver and two 6GB5 finals. These tubes are still available and fairly low cost.

I'm asking $175.00 for this radio as is.

VHF/UHF Yagi farm.

Posted May 21st, 2024 by: W4CX

Contact: dargordo@gmail.com

Liquidating my entire VHF/UHF antenna farm of (mostly) yagi beams and some 2M and 6M FM auto whips. All antennas were removed from fully operable field work at W4CX qth.
WILL NOT SHIP! Pick up in RALEIGH, NC ONLY. MANUAL INCLUDED. Used at W4CX for FM, SSB, SAT, SCATTER, IONOSPHERE Sporatic E and CW, and others. Located very close to Crabtree Valley Mall.

All prices are OBO, Ca$h only. Ask about a package deal price for all. These ALL have to go! No room no mo'.

1) CUSHCRAFT ARX-2B 2M Yagi $27
4) VARIOUS 5/8 2m and 2m/440 auto whips with mounts. $FREE
5) HAMSTICK 6M? $20
6) CUSHCRAFT A449-11 $85
INFO: Call Darrell, W4CX, at (919) 306-7699

Posted May 21st, 2024 by: W4CX

Contact: dargordo@gmail.com

FS: Icom IC-7300 HF rig w/ accessories

Posted May 20th, 2024 by: K4CBW

Contact: cbwest@gmail.com

Clean Icom IC-7300 HF radio for sale, shack-kept, no smoke or pets. Comes with standard accessories (mic, power cord), original box, optional carry handle, nylon dust cover, and SOTABeams

RARS Classifieds continued

Click2Tune. Pickup in Raleigh. $850

Can demo at the RARS Gathering on 5/28 (contact me in advance).

Pictured on my QRZ page: https://www.qrz.com/db/k4cbw

ARRL Extra Exam Q&A Book

Posted May 11th, 2024 by: KI4QHM

Contact: ki4qhm@gmail.com

FREE This book is valid for the question pool ending June 30, 2024

Pfister "Brea" 4 in. Centerset Single-Handle Bathroom Faucet in Brushed Nickel, NIB -$60

Posted May 7th, 2024 by: N4KYW

Contact: howagood@yahoo.com

Model Number: LF-042-BRKK

Unique looking replacement faucet for bathroom sink with single hole, or three holes spaced a total of 4 inches center-to-center. Matching deck (covers all three sink holes) included.

Pop-up drain included.

Brand New! (open box). Never previously installed.

Finish: Brushed Nickel

Single Handle Control

Fascinating to watch! Rippling water cascades down open chute toward center of sink bowl, away from back!

Printed installation instructions included.

$60

Minutes, Board of Directors Meeting

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

April 16, 2024
7:00 PM on Zoom

President Fin Gold called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. He asked if any visitors were present, but there were none. He requested Secretary Julie Royster to make a quorum call. There were 14 board members present at the time of the count, constituting a quorum, and additional board members joined later. BOD members attending were: Fin Gold NC4FG, Chuck Till K4RGN, Julie Royster KT4JR, Alan Pitegoff AB4OZ, Denny Oestreich KO4IBL, Greg Seamster KE4PAX, Ken Latchum AD4GX, Tony O'Connor K1OC, Brantley West K4CBW, Curt Phillips W4CP, Jeremy Lindsley K2HJX, John Honeycutt N8ZU, Nancy Torborg KB2TNR, Tadd Torborg KA2DEW, Richard Hall K7RLH, David Burt W4OFO, and Chuck Littlewood K4HF.

President Gold asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 2024 Board Meeting. Tony O'Connor so moved and the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Old Business

a. Infrastructure/Engage Committee Updates - Fin Gold, NC4FG
   Discord and Google Drive online tools are working, and members are urged to use them to review minutes and to participate in discussions. The TRACKS slide and the ENGAGEMENT slide were well received at the RARS*fest*. Please look at these slides and realize that every bullet will have guidelines behind them to help people learn these techniques.

New Business

a. 2024/2025 Budget Discussion Greg Seamster KE4PAX
The BOD always reviews a draft budget in April. A draft will be sent soon. The BOD looks at the budget in May before showing it to members in June. If there is anything to change then the next 4 weeks is the time to make changes. President Fin Gold said there are things he wants to invest in and asked where money should be allocated from. Treasurer Greg Seamster replied that the membership can approve new spending. Fin wants to spend some funds on youth education and on repeaters. Tadd Torborg asked how much is left in the current education budget. Greg Seamster said there is about $1000 left. Fin Gold asked what it was intended to be spent on. The 2023-24 fiscal year ends June 30, 2024. The $1000 could be spent without asking for member approval since it was in the current budget. John Honeycutt said the BOD has authority to move money and spend it. Money budgeted in a prior year cannot be carried over. Fin Gold said all committee chairs should look ahead and get requests into the current draft budget that Greg Seamster is preparing. Tony O'Connor asked whether the new budget materials will include a balance sheet, as is provided monthly with the Treasurer's report. Brantley West said that regarding the education budget, in years when there were no classes the portable group used the education line item for its expenses, so going forward there needs to be a separate line item requested for the portable operations group. Jeremy Lindsley suggested that a line item be added for ham public service needs.

b. Donation of Spectrum Analyzers Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW
About 20 units are available from a donor. These are 3 GHz spectrum analyzers offered to us. They do need users to be trained a bit so as to use them safely. The donor needs to use our form to make a donation. Some of the units need minor repairs. Tadd has ideas about how we should use them. We would have to pick them up in Durham and bring them here. Where to store them? What to do with them? Is it OK to accept them? We could even turn them into cash. Tony O'Connor could store some in his basement. We can get an opinion on how

long we have to keep them to fulfill any IRS requirements. Billy Janke KE4VNC has told Tadd that he could transport them from Durham. Tony O'Connor moved that RARS accept the donation, and the motion was seconded and passed. Greg Seamster will make the donation form available to send to the donor.

c. Discuss moving General Meeting and Board meeting to in-person Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW
RARS needs to find out whether we can get the meeting room back for the second Tuesday at the church. All other nearby radio clubs are meeting in person. Tadd Torborg proposes to keep the Gathering going on the fourth Tuesday. New ham get-togethers could still happen prior to the general club meeting. Tadd says younger hams need in-person meetings to be attracted. Fin suggests asking the members to opine and vote on this issue. Richard Hall stated that hybrid meetings as done by the Forsyth county group are not audible over Zoom. Chuck Till said it is better not to offer hybrid meetings as an option. Chuck Till moved to continue BOD meetings on Zoom; the motion was seconded and passed with 1 nay vote. John Honeycutt moved to create a member survey for opinions about in-person club meetings; the motion was seconded and passed. Fin Gold will make a draft of this survey. John Honeycutt will ask Ridge Road Baptist Church whether meeting rooms would be available at the church.

Officers' Reports

a. Vice-President's Report – Chuck Till K4RGN
ARRL has our paperwork regarding repeater trustees but has not responded yet. Regarding club meeting program speakers, Chuck is trying to engage local people who have some tie to RARS, not totally unrelated folks from far away.

b. Treasurer's Report – Greg Seamster KE4PAX
RARS now has 481 members, with 11 new members in April. Cash flow is positive, a few more expenses anticipated from RARS*fest*.

c. Secretary's Report – Julie Royster KT4JR
Minutes are up to date.

Committee Reports:

a. Public Service Director Jeremy Lindsley, K2HJX
The season is going well. There will be a new event in Asheboro. Recruitment is going well. The first HPSNC net held went longer than expected so we are changing the time to 7 pm on the 4th Wednesday in order to end prior to 8 pm.

b. Education Director Denny Oestreich, KO4IBL
Only 2 of the 15 people who took the technician class gave him feedback, and those 2 passed. Need to decide on next class: general class? Another technician class? There were positive comments from the students this time, especially about the variety of the instructors. Tony suggested to do another tech class fast to get more students for a general class. K4HF says there is always the largest demand for tech class. For a General class it is hard to get enough students. Nancy says instructors should do more than powerpoints; students need printed information and other modalities too. Fin says if we will not offer a general class we need to tell people where to go. David Burt says elmers can supplement books or apps that students can use on their own. Fin asks that BOD members funnel ideas to Denny. Denny will email each student for feedback.

c. Field Day Chairs Curt Phillips, W4CP David Burt, W4OFO
Curt W4CP and David Burt W4OFO have band captains lined up. They are looking at becoming a 9A site as there is less competition there regarding FD club rankings. The site has been rented and paid for. They are lining up antennas. Anyone who wants to help should contact them. Alan Pitegoff asks if they have gotten all the info they need: no not yet. Nancy Torborg volunteers to work on a social media page for RARS field day. David Burt says he reached out to the NCSU club and they might participate. David may run a digital 15 m station. They will publicize starting now. They are trying to make a plan that can be followed in the future. Alan asks if anyone knows where the band pass filters are. Brantley

says he has one complete set newly purchased by the grant. Alan is looking for the old filters. Alan can store items for Brantley in the shed.

d. FM Repeater Chair — Chuck DeCourt, W3WZN
Alan Pitegoff says Chuck Decourt says RARS has purchased the radio being used for the 64 repeater, which previously belonged to Danny Hampton. Fin has asked for documentation of what RARS owns for each repeater.

e. RARS*fest* Chair — Nancy Torborg, KB2TNR
April 5, 2025 has been reserved for next year. 2024 RARS*fest* was incredibly well received.

f. Exciter Editor — Tom Lewis, N4TL
Fin Gold stated that the next Exciter deadline is May 4.

g. Net Manager — Julie Royster, KT4JR
Nets are proceeding OK.

h. ARRL Liaison — Chuck Littlewood, K4HF
Marv was sorry to miss RARS*fest* due to being sick. ARRL folks did attend.

i. RARS VE Coordinator — Richard Hall, K7RLH
There were 61 pre-registered examinees plus over 15 walkins at RARS*fest*. He has sent some comments regarding ideas for next year. There will be testing in April at the Gathering. Fin Gold says we need to send an email to each person who became a new tech to tell them about free RARS membership for 1 year.

j. RARS Webmaster — Tony O'Connor, K1OC
nothing to report

k. Youth Chairman — Brantley West, K4CBW
nothing to report

l. At Large Director — Alan Pitegoff, AB4OZ
nothing to report

m. At Large Director — Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW
nothing to report

RARS Board of Directors Meeting minutes continued

n.At Large Director Ken Latchum, AD4GX
nothing to report

Other comments from Board Members
Greg Seamster asked for budget comments prior to the May meeting.

Adjournment
Chuck Till moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

RARS Club Meeting Minutes

7:30 PM on Zoom
May 14, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Fin Gold NC4FG on Zoom. He welcomed participants and reminded them of several tips about using Zoom. He led participants in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the USA. President Gold asked whether there were new members, visitors, or newly upgraded members present, but there were none.

President Gold urged members to take a look at the newly established Discord page for RARS discussions. He asked members who have not yet done so to participate in the online survey about holding club meetings in person.

President Gold asked Secretary Julie Royster, KT4JR, for a quorum call. She replied that there was not a quorum yet (missing 2 of the needed 48 members present), so a recount would be needed later.

Vice President Chuck Till, K4RGN, announced that the meeting program in June will concern Field Day arrangements. The July program will cover DXpedition experiences

Secretary Julie Royster, KT4JR, stated that minutes are up to date.

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Announcements
Alan Pitegoff, AB4OZ announced that the next AB4OZ hamfest will be on May 18 unless it rains, with a rain date of May 25. See his QRZ page for updates.

Curt Phillips, W4CP, announced that Field Day is June 22-23 with setup on Friday June 21 at the police facility with an air-conditioned building for breaks. See this link for signing up to operate stations in a slot. https://rars.org/fieldday/2024/index.php
We need help putting up 4 masts on June 21. There will be training on June 8 in Smithfield for how to raise masts; please attend and bring friends who may be interested. Please sign up to help us plan operations. Bring friends who might be interested in learning about ham radio.

David Burt, W4OFO, stated that we need one volunteer to send traffic messages on Field Day.

Fin Gold, NC4FG, announced that the next Board Meeting will be at 7PM on Tuesday, May 21st via Zoom. He asked for any additional announcements.

Secretary Julie Royster announced that a quorum had been achieved at 49 members present, thus allowing for votes. Chuck Till, K4RGN, made a motion to approve the April club meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and approved.

Program
VP Chuck Till, K4RGN, introduced the program at 7:45 pm. The speaker was Ryan Gladson, Chief Engineer at CBS 17 Raleigh (WNCN), who discussed NextGen TV, ATSC 3.0. He gave a detailed explanation of this new TV broadcast development and answered questions. The program ended at 8:33 pm, and Chuck Till, K4RGN, thanked Ryan Gladson for his participation.

Adjournment
President Fin Gold asked for a motion to adjourn. Chuck Till, K4RGN, so moved. The motion was seconded and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm.

June 2024 Exciter contents

1. Meeting information, General (Zoom) and RARS Gathering in person.
2. President's message.
3. May 14, 2024 RARS Zoom meeting information and pictures.
4. Monthly In-Person RARS Gathering, 38 people attended.
5. RARS Field Day information.
6. RARS Member Birthdays and new members.
7. May 2024 RARS Nets Report.
8. Ham Radio Luncheon. New York Diner, every Thursday.
9. RARS Repeaters in Raleigh & Nets.
10. Six meter net.
11. 6m RF Noise by Doug, K3LTV.
12. RARS Monthly Supper, IHOP Restaurant, information & picture.
13. RARS Public Service.
14. RARS Classifieds, 4 pages.
15. RARS Board Meeting Minutes, April 2024.
16. RARS Membership Meeting minutes, May 2024.
17. Exciter Contents, This list.